

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated March 9, 2004, the Examiner acknowledged Applicants' selection of claim 1. At this point, the Examiner is requesting specifically named ingredients for the composition of claim 1. More particularly, the Examiner is requesting a specifically named water soluble metal compound, a specifically named sequestering agent and a specifically named acid for the composition of claim 1. In reply, Applicant herewith submits a Reply and Amendment.

In this document, Applicant specifically enumerates the at least one water soluble metal compound in claim 1. The metal compound is selected from the group consisting of zinc, magnesium, copper, selenium, iron, nickel, titanium, vanadium and aluminum compounds. In addition, the Examiner requested a specifically named sequestering agent. In reply, Applicant notes that the sequestering agent is other than chelate or glutamate and is selected from the group consisting ammonium sulphate, ammonium chloride, ammonium phosphate and ammonium citrate.

Finally, the Examiner requested a specifically named acid for the composition of claim 1. In reply, Applicant notes that at least one acid is selected from the group consisting of sulfuric, hydrochloric, phosphoric and citric acids.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 should now be in condition for examination. Applicant also notes that certain of the dependent claims, namely claims 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 13, 15, 17, 21, 23 and 24 have been amended.

Also, Applicant has cancelled without prejudice dependent claims 9, 10 and 12.

In addition, Applicant submits herewith a new dependent claim 34.

In light of the foregoing amendment and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are in condition for examination.

Respectfully submitted,

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